

Around the Services

Compiled by *Paul Disney* from service reports



Navy

THE Navy is celebrating 100 years of the destroyer, a surface vessel originally designed to destroy high-speed torpedo boats. As torpedo boats at the turn of the 20th century were capable of high-speed attack, navies of the industrialized world saw the need to counter this threat with ships that could perform the role. From the first torpedo-boat destroyer commissioned in 1902 to the newest design, the Zumwalt class, the Navy and its destroyers will continue to be an effective, deadly force into the 21st century.



Marines

MARINE Corps officials have disclosed that Marine reconnaissance teams infiltrated into Boise, Idaho, during early May, gathered intelligence on specific targets, then slipped out of the city undetected. It was part of a Corps effort to increase training realism. Each recon team was accompanied by a city police officer who ensured that residents knew that what was happening was part of an exercise.



Air Force

CHIEF Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch announced he will retire in June after 28 years of service. He said the decision was a difficult one given the state of world events. Finch began his military career in 1974 as a missile-maintenance technician, and he later taught military education courses. His became the 30th CMSAF in August 1999.



Coast Guard

THE U.S. Coast Guard and the Canadian Customs and Revenue Agency have joined forces to deal with possible terrorist threats on the St. Lawrence Seaway and the Great Lakes. Every ship that transits these waters passes vital facilities and large population areas.

The masters of all ships entering the St. Lawrence Seaway will have to give 96 hours' notice to U.S. and Canadian officials. USCG and CCRA personnel will initially screen the ship's information, and will submit the crew and passenger list to a centralized information center for review. If a threat is identified, Canadian officials will board the vessel to conduct a security review. The new measures reinforce old policies already in place.

